

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing method in an information processing apparatus which can communicate with a print management apparatus via the Internet, comprising:
 - an input step of, when a print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus, inputting an uploading instruction so that the print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus and managed without performing a printing process;
 - an uploading step of, when said uploading instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to said print management apparatus via the Internet; and
 - a print ordering step of transmitting a print ordering request of one or more print orders which were designated by the user and should be print-ordered among the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

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2. A method according to claim 1, further comprising a list obtaining step of accessing said print management apparatus via the Internet and obtaining an order list of the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus, and wherein in said print ordering step, the print ordering request of one or more print orders which were

designated by the user and should be print-ordered from the obtained order list of the print orders is transmitted to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

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3. A method according to claim 1, further comprising a print order forming step of forming the print order for making the print ordering to said print management apparatus on the basis of print target data formed by an application.

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4. A method according to claim 3, further comprising a printer information obtaining step of obtaining a printer information description file from said print management apparatus via the Internet,

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and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order is formed on the basis of a print setting described in the obtained printer information description file.

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5. A method according to claim 3, further comprising a shop information obtaining step of obtaining a shop information file from said print management apparatus via the Internet,

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and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order including a shop name based on the obtained shop information file.

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6. A print control program which can be executed by an information processing apparatus which can communicate with a print management apparatus via the Internet, comprising:

5 an input step of, when a print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus, inputting an uploading instruction so that the print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus and managed without performing a printing process;

10 an uploading step of, when said uploading instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to said print management apparatus via the Internet; and

15 a print ordering step of transmitting a print ordering request of one or more print orders which were designated by the user and should be print-ordered among the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

20 7. A program according to claim 6, further comprising a list obtaining step of accessing said print management apparatus via the Internet and obtaining an order list of the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus,

25 and wherein in said print ordering step, the print ordering request of one or more print orders which were designated by the user and should be print-ordered from

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the obtained order list of the print orders is transmitted to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

5 8. A program according to claim 6, further comprising a print order forming step of forming the print order for making the print ordering to said print management apparatus on the basis of print target data formed by an application.

10 9. A program according to claim 8, further comprising a printer information obtaining step of obtaining a printer information description file from said print management apparatus via the Internet, and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order is formed on the basis of a print setting described in the obtained printer information description file.

15 10. A program according to claim 8, further comprising a shop information obtaining step of obtaining a shop information file from said print management apparatus via the Internet, and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order including a shop name based on the obtained shop information file.

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11. An information processing apparatus which can communicate with a print management apparatus via the Internet, comprising:

inputting means for, when a print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus, inputting an uploading instruction so that the print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus and managed without performing a printing process;

uploading means for, when said uploading instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to said print management apparatus via the Internet; and

print ordering means for transmitting a print ordering request of one or more print orders which were designated by the user and should be print-ordered among the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

12. A print management method in a print management apparatus which can communicate with a client via the Internet, comprising:

a print order receiving step of receiving a print order from the client;

a print order managing step of managing the received print order in correspondence to user identification information of the client without performing a printing process;

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a searching step of searching the print order to be returned as an order list of the print orders among the print orders managed in said print order managing step with reference to the user identification

5 information of said client in accordance with a request from the client; and

an order list returning step of returning the order list including said searched print order to the client who requested.

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13. A method according to claim 12, wherein in said print order managing step, the received print order is further managed in correspondence to shop identification information which is included in the print order and shows a shop which should perform the printing process, and

15 in said searching step, the print order for the shop shown by the shop identification information is searched among the print orders managed in said print order managing step with reference to the shop identification information designated by the client in accordance with a request from the client.

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25 14. A method according to claim 12, further comprising:

a print order receiving step of receiving a print ordering instruction for designating one or more print

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orders from the client in accordance with the order list returned to the client; and

5 a transmission control step of controlling so as to transmit the one or more print orders designated by the received print ordering instruction to the designated shop.

15. A print control program which can be executed by a print management apparatus which can communicate 10 with a client via the Internet, comprising:

a print order receiving step of receiving a print order from the client;

15 a print order managing step of managing the received print order in correspondence to user identification information of the client without performing a printing process;

20 a searching step of searching the print order to be returned as an order list of the print orders among the print orders managed in said print order managing step with reference to the user identification information of said client in accordance with a request 25 from the client; and

an order list returning step of returning the order list including said searched print order to the client who requested.

16. A program according to claim 15, wherein

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in said print order managing step, the received
print order is further managed in correspondence to
shop identification information which is included in
the print order and shows a shop which should perform
5 the printing process, and

in said searching step, the print order for the
shop shown by the shop identification information is
searched among the print orders managed in said print
order managing step with reference to the shop
10 identification information designated by the client in
accordance with a request from the client.

17. A program according to claim 15, further
comprising:

15 a print order receiving step of receiving a print
ordering instruction for designating one or more print
orders from the client in accordance with the order
list returned to the client; and

20 a transmission control step of controlling so as
to transmit the one or more print orders designated by
the received print ordering instruction to the
designated shop.

18. A print management apparatus which can
25 communicate with a client via the Internet, comprising:
print order receiving means for receiving a print
order from the client;

print order managing means for managing the received print order in correspondence to user identification information of the client without performing a printing process;

5 searching means for searching the print order to be returned as an order list of the print orders among the print orders managed by said print order managing means with reference to the user identification information of said client in accordance with a request
10 from the client; and

 order list returning means for returning the order list including said searched print order to the client who requested.

15 19. A print control system in which an information processing apparatus and a print management apparatus can communicate with each other via the Internet,

 wherein said information processing apparatus
20 comprises:

 inputting means for, when a print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus, inputting an uploading instruction so that the print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus and managed without performing a printing process;

 uploading means for, when said uploading instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to

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said print management apparatus via the Internet; and
print ordering means for transmitting a print
ordering request of one or more print orders which were
designated by the user and should be print-ordered
5 among the print orders uploaded in said print
management apparatus to said print management apparatus
via the Internet, and

said print management apparatus comprises:
order managing means for managing the print order
10 uploaded from said information processing apparatus;
and

control means for specifying the print order
managed by said order managing means with reference to
the print ordering request transmitted from said
15 information processing apparatus and controlling so as
to transmit the specified print order to a shop which
should perform a printing process.

20. A print control system in which an
information processing apparatus and a print management
apparatus can communicate with each other via the
Internet,

wherein said information processing apparatus
comprises:

25 uploading means for uploading a print order to
said print management apparatus; and
requesting means for requesting an order list of

the print orders from said print management apparatus,
and

 said print management apparatus comprises:

 print order receiving means for receiving a print
5 order from said information processing apparatus;

 print order managing means for managing the
 received print order in correspondence to user
 identification information of a client without
 performing a printing process;

10 searching means for searching the print order to
 be returned as an order list of the print orders among
 the print orders managed by said print order managing
 means with reference to the user identification
 information of said client in accordance with a request
15 from said client; and

 order list returning means for returning the order
 list including said searched print order to the client
 who requested.

20 21. An information processing method in an
 information processing apparatus which can communicate
 with a print management apparatus via the Internet,
 comprising:

25 an input requesting step of, when a print order is
 transmitted to said print management apparatus,
 promoting an input of an alternative instruction of a
 print ordering instruction for issuing the print order

as it is after the print order was transmitted to said print management apparatus or an uploading instruction for allowing the print order to be transmitted to said print management apparatus and managed without issuing
5 the print order;

an uploading step of, when said uploading instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to said print management apparatus via the Internet; and
10 a print ordering step of transmitting a print ordering request of one or more print orders which were designated by the user and should be print-ordered among the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

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22. A method according to claim 21, further comprising a list obtaining step of accessing said print management apparatus via the Internet and obtaining an order list of the print orders uploaded in
20 said print management apparatus,

and wherein in said print ordering step, the print ordering request of one or more print orders which were designated by the user and should be print-ordered from the obtained order list of the print orders is
25 transmitted to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

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23. A method according to claim 21, further comprising a print order forming step of forming the print order for making the print ordering to said print management apparatus on the basis of print target data formed by an application.

24. A method according to claim 23, further comprising a printer information obtaining step of obtaining a printer information description file from said print management apparatus via the Internet,

and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order is formed on the basis of a print setting described in the obtained printer information description file.

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25. A method according to claim 23, further comprising a shop information obtaining step of obtaining a shop information file from said print management apparatus via the Internet,

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and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order including a shop name based on the obtained shop information file.

26. A print control program which can be executed by an information processing apparatus which can communicate with a print management apparatus via the Internet, comprising:

an input requesting step of, when a print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus, promoting an input of an alternative instruction of a print ordering instruction for issuing the print order 5 as it is after the print order was transmitted to said print management apparatus or an uploading instruction for allowing the print order to be transmitted to said print management apparatus and managed without issuing the print order;

10 an uploading step of, when said uploading instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to said print management apparatus via the Internet; and a print ordering step of transmitting a print ordering request of one or more print orders which were 15 designated by the user and should be print-ordered among the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

20 27. A program according to claim 26, further comprising a list obtaining step of accessing said print management apparatus via the Internet and obtaining an order list of the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus,

25 and wherein in said print ordering step, the print ordering request of one or more print orders which were designated by the user and should be print-ordered from

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the obtained order list of the print orders is transmitted to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

5 28. A program according to claim 26, further comprising a print order forming step of forming the print order for making the print ordering to said print management apparatus on the basis of print target data formed by an application.

10 29. A program according to claim 28, further comprising a printer information obtaining step of obtaining a printer information description file from said print management apparatus via the Internet, and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order is formed on the basis of a print setting described in the obtained printer information description file.

15 30. A program according to claim 28, further comprising a shop information obtaining step of obtaining a shop information file from said print management apparatus via the Internet, and wherein in said print order forming step, a print order including a shop name based on the obtained shop information file.

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31. An information processing apparatus which can communicate with a print management apparatus via the Internet, comprising:

input requesting means for, when a print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus, promoting an input of an alternative instruction of a print ordering instruction for issuing the print order as it is after the print order was transmitted to said print management apparatus or an uploading instruction for allowing the print order to be transmitted to said print management apparatus and managed without issuing the print order;

uploading means for, when said uploading instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to said print management apparatus via the Internet; and

print ordering means for transmitting a print ordering request of one or more print orders which were designated by the user and should be print-ordered among the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

32. A print management method in a print management apparatus which can communicate with a client via the Internet, comprising:

a discriminating step of discriminating whether a print order which is received from the client is a

print ordering order for allowing the print order to be issued as it is after the print order was received or an uploading order for allowing the print order to be managed after the print order was received without

5 issuing the print order;

a transmission control step of, if it is determined that the print order is said print ordering order, controlling so as to transmit the received print order as a print order to a designated shop;

10 a print order managing step of, if it is

determined that the print order is said uploading order, managing the received print order in correspondence to user identification information of the client without issuing the print order; and

15 a print order receiving step of specifying a

plurality of print orders to be transmitted to the designated shop as print orders among the print orders which have already been managed in the print order managing step in accordance with a print ordering

20 request of one time from the client and allowing the

print ordering process of the print order in the transmission control step to be executed with respect to the specified plurality of print orders.

25 33. A method according to claim 32, further comprising:

a searching step of searching the print order to

be returned as an order list of the print orders among the print orders managed in said print order managing step with reference to the user identification information of said client in accordance with a request 5 from the client; and

an order list returning step of returning the order list including said searched print order to the client who requested.

10 34. A method according to claim 33, wherein in said print order receiving step, the print ordering instruction of one time for designating said plurality of print orders is received from the client in accordance with the order list returned to the client 15 in said order list returning step.

35. A print control program which can be executed by a print management apparatus which can communicate with a client via the Internet, comprising:

20 a discriminating step of discriminating whether a print order which is received from the client is a print ordering order for allowing the print order to be issued as it is after the print order was received or an uploading order for allowing the print order to be 25 managed after the print order was received without issuing the print order;

a transmission control step of, if it is

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determined that the print order is said print ordering order, controlling so as to transmit the received print order as a print order to a designated shop;

5 a print order managing step of, if it is
determined that the print order is said uploading
order, managing the received print order in
correspondence to user identification information of
the client without issuing the print order; and
10 a print order receiving step of specifying a
plurality of print orders to be transmitted to the
designated shop as print orders among the print orders
which have already been managed in the print order
managing step in accordance with a print ordering
request of one time from the client and allowing the
15 print ordering process of the print order in the
transmission control step to be executed with respect
to the specified plurality of print orders.

36. A program according to claim 35, further
20 comprising:

 a searching step of searching the print order to
be returned as an order list of the print orders among
the print orders managed in said print order managing
step with reference to the user identification
25 information of said client in accordance with a request
from the client; and

 an order list returning step of returning the

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order list including said searched print order to the client who requested.

37. A program according to claim 36, wherein in
5 said print order receiving step, the print ordering instruction of one time for designating said plurality of print orders is received from the client in accordance with the order list returned to the client in said order list returning step.

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38. A print management apparatus which can communicate with a client via the Internet, comprising:

discriminating means for discriminating whether a print order which is received from the client is a
15 print ordering order for allowing the print order to be issued as it is after the print order was received or an uploading order for allowing the print order to be managed after the print order was received without issuing the print order;

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transmission control means for, if it is determined that the print order is said print ordering order, controlling so as to transmit the received print order as a print order to a designated shop;

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print order managing means for, if it is determined that the print order is said uploading order, managing the received print order in correspondence to user identification information of

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the client without issuing the print order; and
print order receiving means for specifying a
plurality of print orders to be transmitted to the
designated shop as print orders among the print orders
5 which have already been managed by the print order
managing means in accordance with a print ordering
request of one time from the client and allowing the
print ordering process of the print order in the
transmission control step to be executed with respect
10 to the specified plurality of print orders.

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